



Egremont News

Issue 118

October, 2021

Rules & Regulations of this Newsletter:

The purpose of this newsletter is to keep residents informed of what is going on in our community. It is printed on a quarterly basis by the Selectmen's Office Staff. Articles submitted by Town Boards are not edited by the Select Board or Office Administrator. Outside organizations are allowed to submit articles of no longer than one column length. These articles are to be factual and will not be printed if they contain any political format, forum, or communication. We welcome reader input and hope you enjoy reading the Newsletter. **If you wish to receive this newsletter via email please contact town hall - tegrement@egremont-ma.gov or 413-528-0182.**

Selectmen:

The Town is happy to announce that it received a \$50,000 matching grant from the Massachusetts Preservation Funds through Massachusetts Historical Commission, Secretary of the Commonwealth, William Francis Galvin, Chairman. The Town appropriated \$282,300 at the June 2021 Annual Town Meeting to make necessary repairs to the building and make the building handicapped accessible. Work is planned to begin this fall. The Library may be closed during much of this work.

The Town has been awarded two Best Practices grants through the Massachusetts Community Compact program. The grants, each in the amount of \$30,000, will be used to update the Town's Master Plan and the Town's Open Space & Recreation Plans. Watch for more detailed information as public input is a requirement of the updates. The Town has two years to complete these updates.

The Town received a grant to update the Forest Management Plan on the town owned property on Jug End and Mount Washington Roads. Conservation Commission member Dave Seligman, worked with Tom Ryan and Jim Kelly to obtain the grant and update the plan. The plan is on file at Town Hall for viewing.

The Selectboard will begin negotiations with the Police and Highway Unions in October. The board will also begin the budget process for FY 2023. An All-boards meeting will be held in early November to kick off the budget process. Everyone is invited to attend via zoom - watch the meeting posting.

Board meetings continue to be held via zoom for public participation, while Selectboard members are meeting in-person at town hall. The Board is currently meeting every other Tuesday afternoon at 1:30pm. All meetings are posted on the town's web page. Please join us.

The reconstruction project for Route 23/41 through the south village goes out to bid in June of 2022 with a construction start date tentatively in March of 2023 and ending in November of 2023.

The Board is planning to hold a Halloween event at French Park again. This year's event will be on October 30, 6:00pm. As was done last year, each child will receive a bag with treats, donuts and cider will be available, there will be a pumpkin carving contest in which the children can bring their carved pumpkins from home, a costume contest, pinata filled with goodies, scary stories and music, and a scary trail walk.



Though the town's Transportation Department is up and running, there has been no word as to when the Town will receive its transportation van. The Board has hired two drivers, Michael Harrigan and Nancy Crawford, and is training a third driver, Jake Nerzig, to act as back-up. Meanwhile the transportation grant is still in effect until December 31, 2021. Under the grant program, if you need a ride to an appointment, please contact Peg Muskrat at 413-528-0182 ext 16 for scheduling.

Attached to this newsletter, please find a short questionnaire from the Cultural Council which you can return to town hall or via email to tegrement@egremont-ma.gov.

With deep sadness we mourn the loss of Genis Melendez-Delaney who was, most recently, serving as one of Egremont's two School Committee members. Click on this link to hear Chairman McGurn's tribute to Genis at the September 14 Board meeting.

<https://bit.ly/BoSTributeGenisMelendezDelaney>

Broadband provider, Fiber Connect, has moved its home base to Egremont, at 17 Sky Farm Road, off of Pumpkin Hollow Road. We welcome. Board members recently had a tour of the facility.



(Selectboard members, left to right, George McGurn, Lucinda Vermeulen, and Mary Brazie, discuss with Adam Chait in the yellow, Fiber Connect's move to Egremont. Photo credit Mary McGurn.)

All necessary contracts between the Town, the Commonwealth and Fiber Connect have been signed for the completion of build out in Egremont, some unserved areas have recently been built out, and make ready work should begin shortly in other areas.

Reminder: The installation discount with Fiber Connect ends October 31, 2021. Sign up on line at the Fiber Connect web page to get on the install list to guarantee your 50% discount.

Fiber Connect, Town Officials and State Officials met at Brookvale Road in the Jug End Reservation to discuss how best to get broadband to the residents on Hilltop Road, which is inside the Jug End Reservation. The reservation is owned by two state organizations, Department of Conservation & Recreation and the Department of Fisheries & Wildlife.

(State, local officials and Fiber Connect Adam Chait meeting at Brookvale Road. Photo Credit Mary McGurn.)



Want to keep informed about school consolidation planning between the Southern Berkshire and the Berkshire Hills Regional School Districts? Go to this web site <https://www.rsdpb.org/>.

Flu Clinic:

Our public health nurses will be holding the annual flu vaccination clinic outdoors under the pavilion at French Park on Wednesday October 6th from 3:00 pm – 6:00 pm. The vaccine available will be the Fluarix quadrivalent. If you have insurance, bring your card so our providers can be reimbursed. No one will be turned away though without insurance or ability to pay.

You do not need to be an Egremont resident to get a flu shot at this clinic, so please share this information with friends and family from other communities.

As COVID booster shot policy and distribution is still being studied, **COVID booster shots will not be offered at this flu clinic.** Our nurses will be bringing COVID vaccine for those age 12 and older who have yet to receive their first dose.

ECO-TIP

Eating take-out meals at home? Ask that utensils and condiments not be included with your order.

French Park:

The Town contracted with Native Habitat Restoration to begin the process of removing invasive plants in the park. The first phase of the project removed invasives, most notably Burning Bush, from the area of the old Chapel deep inside the park.

The Pollinator gardens near the upper ball field and the dog park are a resounding success. Volunteers are needed regularly to weed the gardens. Send an email to Town Hall if you are interested in lending a hand.

The building permit has been issued for the broadband headend that will be installed by Fiber Connect in a wooded area near the Dog Park. Once the headend is installed, Wi-Fi will then be installed throughout the park.

The French Park Committee recently applied for a grant to pay for a Forest Management Plan for the park.

There will be a Flu/Covid Vaccine Clinic, October 6, 2021, 3pm to 6pm at French Park.

Meet Egremont's Employee: Road Superintendent James Noe.



Jim previously worked on the Town's highway crew and has served as Road Superintendent for two spans of time beginning in 2007. Enjoys camping with his wife and friends.

ECO-TIP

LEDs go in the regular trash. They don't contain hazardous material, as compact fluorescents do (mercury).

Transfer Station:

Reminder: Permanent New Hours

Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday hours
8:00am to 1pm, Sunday 10am to 4pm.

If you haven't gotten your transfer station sticker please do so before the attendant starts to turn people away for not displaying it.

Announcing 2 new bins for fabrics and clothing at the Transfer Station!

The company is Apparel Impact. It's a veteran-run company that delivers clothing directly to families in the Northeast.

Read about its mission here:

www.apparelimpact.com

See below for items it accepts.

We still love Goodwill, and much of our good-quality excess stuff will go to them, but since Apparel Impact picks up from their bins, the burden that falls on the Egremont volunteers who try to keep the Recycle Shed neat will be lessened.

If you have great-quality clothing (etc.) that you hope Egremonters will want to take, you can still leave it in the receptacle in the Recycle Shed. If it doesn't disappear, move it to the Apparel Impact bin later.

Apparel Impact accepts:

All Accessories

- Purses / Bags
- Ties, Scarves, Hats
- All Shoes
- Sneakers
- Dress Shoes
- Heels
- Flats
- Sandals
- Flip Flops

All Clothing

- Men's Clothing
- Women's Clothing
- Children's Clothing
- Vintage Clothing
- Coats / Jackets
- Winter Gear

Sheets & towels

They DO NOT TAKE:

1. stuffed animals
2. drapes
3. blankets

Reminder Egremont is a Right to Farm Town!



(Photo credit Tom Reynolds)

Yes, you may have livestock, chickens, etc on your property. Your chickens must be confined to your property. The Town is required annually to report a farm animal and livestock count to the Commonwealth. Please send a quick email to tegrement@egremont-ma.gov with your count. Annually our Animal Inspector, Cara Turner, is required to inspect all farm animals and livestock. Last year, because of COVID, that requirement has been waived.

Broadband Network Project:

Important Reminder! Now through October 31, Fiber Connect is offering a **50% promotional discount on installation charges** to all Egremont residents regardless of location within the Town—even

locations already cabled. The discount also applies to any residents in the unserved areas who sign up prior to construction passing their homes even if such construction takes place after October 31. Currently, the published FC residential installation charge is \$999; the promotional charge will be \$499. For customers in existing service areas who sign up under the promotional terms, installation will be done in “batches” for efficiency, meaning that actual connection may be held up until there are enough customers in a specific area to make it feasible to send an installation crew at the reduced price. All questions about FC services and pricing should be directed to FC at sales@bfcma.com or 413-429-4109.

Update on Network Buildout. FC has completed applications for utility pole licenses from National Grid and Verizon and has received Make-Ready estimates back from the companies. A few specific pole assessments are still under negotiation, but FC has approved most of the estimates and paid the Make-Ready charges. FC’s payment to the utility companies triggers the actual Make-Ready work, which is scheduled by and under the control of the utility companies. As batches of Make-Ready are completed, FC will install the fiber optic cable and begin to light up customers in the new service areas. Meanwhile, FC has set its own utility poles along Hickory Hill Road and will be proceeding with network buildout there in the coming weeks. Regarding the Brookvale/Hilltop Road area, the permitting process for required easements over state-owned land is continuing.

Low- and Fixed-Income Subsidies.

Discussions are underway to establish eligibility criteria and an application process for residents who may need financial assistance to obtain Internet access. Both Fiber Connect and the Town are eager to define the parameters and put a workable process in place. The goal is to have this finalized by the end of October.

Tax Collector:

FISCAL YEAR 2022 TAX BILLS

Fiscal year is from July 1st, 2021 to June 30th, 2022

Billed quarterly

Fiscal Year 2022 Real Estate & Personal Property Tax Bills were mailed September 30th, 2021 and due by November 1st, 2021. As a reminder, there

is no grace period on taxes. In order to avoid interest and penalties, be sure to have your payment in the tax collector’s office by the due date(s) indicated on your tax bill(s). Postmarks do not apply. Give yourself plenty of time in mailing.

Payment Options Available:

Lockboxes – At each end of the town hall are black lock boxes. Payments, documents, etc can be left here safely at anytime and checked daily.

On Line Banking - UNIPAY on line banking is a great tool for payments of real estate, personal property, excise, water and alarm bills. Visit the Town of Egremont web site www.egremont-ma.gov and click on “pay your bills on line”. Follow the instructions from that point. You will be able to use ACH or a credit card. There are fees assessed by the processor for this service. You will be prompted to continue if you accept the fee.

Bank Bill Pay - When making payments through your bank bill pay, please remember to use your current tax bill number and please be sure that you have our remittance address correct.

Address Changes – In order to change your address please notify us in writing by email or regular mail

Remittance Address: Tax Collector, Town of Egremont, P.O. Box 368, So. Egremont, MA 01258
Questions concerning your tax assessment MUST be directed to the Board of Assessors

413-528-0182 ext. 14

Hours – Tuesday & Thursday 9 – 12
assessors@egremont-ma.gov

ECO-TIP

We’re destroying northern forests for paper towels and toilet tissue. Try cloth or UNpaper towels, and Who-Gives-a-Crap bathroom paper. (The latter is a B corp., 100% is recycled paper, and 50% of profits supports water and sanitation globally.)

Bylaw Review Committee:

Committee members accepted the resignation of Chet Delaney, Vice Chairman, with deep regret. Chet brought his remarkable word skills to the Committee’s work. When members could not agree on wording, we turned to Chet to come up with the words we could accept and keep us moving forward. Chet injected his call for “keep it simple, keep it clear,” in our discussions over phrasing. He eyed our proposed bylaw drafts from

the perspective of an Egremont resident who desired clarity in how the Town works. Chet did this with respect for his fellow committee members and with a touch of humor. From all your committee members a very big thank you.

Bylaw Review Committee meetings are posted on the town website. Committee minutes and Zoom recordings are also accessible on the town's website. The Committee generally meets every 2 weeks for 2 hours via Zoom. Posted agendas include the Zoom invite and can be downloaded from the town's website. The public is welcome to join us.

Assessors:

It is of great sadness that we announce the retirement of Robin Goldberg as a member of the Board of Assessors. Robin has served as a board member for many years and as Chairman for more than 6 years. She has provided a commendable service to the Board and to the Town of Egremont. She will be missed. We wish Robin good luck and much happiness.

We are happy to announce Alice Tortoriello will be filling the vacancy.

On another note, all Chapter Tax Abatement Applications for property used as Forestry, Agriculture, or Recreational land must be in by October 1, 2021.

Any questions, please feel free to contact our office at 413-528-0182 ext 14. Our hours are Tuesday and Thursday 9:00 – 12:00.

Conservation Commission:

David Seligman has recently become Chair of the Conservation Commission, succeeding Bill Tynan, who has served on the Commission since 2010, and as Chair for the past six years. Previously he served as one of the founding members of the National Parks Conservation Association National Council and is a 30+ year member of the National Arbor Day Foundation. Seligman, who is a retired professor and college dean whose work has been in the field of environmental ethics, also serves on the Board of the Egremont Land Trust and serves as a volunteer environmental monitor for the Housatonic Valley Association.

Member Alexis Fakelmann was trained as a landscape architect with expertise in design with

native plants. She is passionate about design that minimizes our impact on the landscape.

Member Patrick Riordan holds a horticultural certificate in Sustainable Land Stewardship, is certified in invasive plant management and monitors rare and endangered plants for the Native Plant Trust.

Member David Campbell served 14 years on the Egremont Select Board and is also a member of the Cemetery Commission.

Associate Member Joyce Frater has completed the Fundamentals Certification for the Massachusetts Association of Conservation Commissions.

While there are limits on the number of Commissioners, there are no limits on the number of Associate Members. The Commission encourages Egremonters with an interest in the work of the Conservation Commission to consider applying to join as Associate Members, as Associate Membership can be a route to full membership when vacancies occur.

Although the primary mission of the Commission is the maintenance and enforcement of the Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act, its work includes developing Forest Management Plans for some of the Town-owned lands and assisting with the updating of the Open Space and Recreation Plan under a Community Compact grant from the State. For more information contact concom@egremont-ma.gov.

ECO-TIP

Idling for 11 seconds uses as much fossil fuel (i.e., gasoline) as starting your car, and it produces unnecessary and dangerous emissions.

Board of Health:

Important message from the BOH: Do you have a filter on your septic tank? If your septic system was installed after 1998, chances are you do. To avoid the messy and healthy situation of septic wastewater backing up into your home, remove the filter on your septic tank and clean it annually.

While septic systems normally work with little and no care or thought (just flush and forget!) they do require a certain amount of maintenance on the homeowner's part to keep them performing well and maximizing their longevity. The filter on your septic tank, which over time becomes clogged with grease, food particles and other drain residuals, requires annual cleaning to avoid a messy and very unhealthy backup

into your home. When backups happen, they are never pretty, and sometimes require emergency pumping and professional sanitizing of your home.

Cleaning the filter on your septic tank once a year is an easy chore you can do yourself. Remove the cover on the tank. Wearing rubber gloves remove the filter with a hook. Using a high-pressure hose, spray the filter until clean. Replace the filter and cover the tank.

A professional septic tank pumper can also perform this work for you. While they are there, ask yourself if it is time to have your tank pumped as well. Septic tanks must be pumped every 3 - 5 years depending on occupancy and usage.

To prolong the life of your septic system, follow these simple tips:

- Clean the filter on the tank once a year
- Pump the tank every 3 – 5 years
- Never wash paint brushes in your sink
- Never flush sanitary products or baby wipes

ECO-TIP

Washing clothing made from polyester, nylon, and acrylic (all are petroleum based) creates significant plastic pollution. For fleece, try the microplastic-catching laundry bag Guppyfriend.

Cemetery Commission:

The Cemetery Commission voted unanimously at its Sept. 3 meeting to ban all breakable floral containers.

Glass or pottery vases create hazards for our maintenance contractors and visitors to gravesites, if, when they break.

The Egremont Cemetery Commission meets on the first Friday of the month at the Town Hall.

The American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) comes to Egremont

Egremont has been awarded grant funds totaling **\$360,183.20**, through the **American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA)** of 2021 (Pub. Law No. 117-2), which became law on March 11, 2021. The purpose of ARPA is to provide direct support to governments to help mitigate the effects of the Covid-19

pandemic. The **ARPA** allows wide latitude in the use of the funds, within four eligible categories:

- 1) To respond to the COVID-19 public health emergency or to its negative economic impacts, including assistance to households, small businesses, and nonprofits, or to aid impacted industries, like hospitality, travel, and tourism
- 2) To provide premium pay to essential workers
- 3) For the provision of government services and to make up for municipal revenue loss due to the pandemic, during the last full fiscal year
- 4) To invest in water, sewer/stormwater, and broadband infrastructure

The grant monies will be received over two years (FY 2021 and FY 2022) and must be allocated by the end of 2024 and fully expended by the end of 2026. To date, Egremont has received 50% of the total allocation (\$180,091.00).

The Select Board is seeking input from the community and Town departments, boards, and committees about how ARPA funds should be used, within the above-noted categories. *All funding suggestions should be “future-focused,” reflecting Covid experience, but recognizing the need to build a more resilient Egremont.*

Every effort will be made to align the use of the ARPA funds to identified community goals, municipal operational priorities, and capital needs. Whenever possible, other grant funding and regional partnerships will be sought, to leverage the limited ARPA funds.

To help with the effort, the Select Board has hired a part-time ARPA Administrator, Peg McDonough, a regional planner who has worked with Egremont on various initiatives, including zoning and transportation. Peg will function as a resource, to assist with grant research, public outreach, project monitoring and to fulfill annual reporting requirements.

The community is invited to attend an ARPA information session on **Tuesday, October 19, 2021, at 6:00 p.m. via ZOOM.**

To help us prepare for the meeting, kindly complete the survey attached to the newsletter.

MVP Committee:

Egremont's Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness (MVP) Committee is thrilled to announce it was awarded a \$40,000 municipal climate resilience grant to:

- Identify key climate-related hazards.
- Develop adaptive actions.
- Update Egremont's current Hazard Mitigation Plan to include climate resiliency.
- Prioritize actions and apply for MVP Action Grants.

The Commonwealth's Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness (MVP) program is administered by the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs (EEA). Egremont is one of 16 communities receiving planning-grant funding in the latest round of applications. The MVP award will allow us to conduct a diligent review of our community's most severe exposures to climate change and develop a plan to address them. Completion of the MVP Planning Grant process will allow Egremont to be eligible for MVP Action Grants, which provides funding to implement priority climate resilience projects.

Background: In December 2020, the Egremont SelectBoard appointed Juliette Haas as Egremont's MVP Project Manager and a MVP Committee was established with Will Conklin, Executive Director of Greenagers, as Chairperson. The 12 member committee includes Egremont municipal department heads, representatives from nine town boards and committees, plus representatives of key community groups. The MVP certified consulting firm of Weston and Sampson was chosen to partner with us and assist with securing a MVP Planning Grant. Weston and Sampson will continue to facilitate conversations with all our residents as well as prepare necessary reports and move the process forward.

Next Steps: Community Engagement: The Committee identified areas such as resiliency to droughts, flash floods, power outages, severe weather events, tick and mosquito borne illnesses, drinking water quality and quantity, housing shortages caused by climate migration, culvert replacement, dam failure and other climate vulnerable areas to assess public safety, as well as town and economic resilience to hazards brought about by climate change. We look forward to hearing from residents in a series of listening sessions. The work of building a climate resilient community will require a concerted effort to ensure inclusivity; that all residents are given an opportunity to shape our

community's climate adaptation strategies.

Timeline: Community input is invaluable! You will have several opportunities to share your specific concerns regarding safety should a natural disaster occur.

- November/December 2021: the committee will continue to gather critical information from our community and crisis preparedness experts.
- March/April 2022: a series of community workshops will be offered.
- April/May 2022: review results and draft final plan.
- May/June 2022: MVP Action Grants due.

You will receive updates and see postings regarding these opportunities. We look forward to working with you!

ECO-TIP

Food waste in landfills doesn't break down properly—it produces the greenhouse gas methane. So, compost! Use a backyard composter or take your non-dairy, non-meat food scraps to our Community Compost at the Transfer Station.

Emergency Management:

Over the past months, Egremont has begun a Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness Planning Grant and Hazard Mitigation Plan Update process. This will allow the Town to complete climate change vulnerability assessments and resiliency planning. After more data is gathered and a final report submitted to the state, Egremont will be designated and "MVP Community" which will lead to increased standing in other state grant programs. A core team has been led by Juliette Haas and continues to move forward with several board members and facilitated by Weston & Sampson.

If any power outages occur in our area, it is imperative that they be reported via the National Grid Customer Service or Outage Reporting phone numbers. Please report any outages or downed wires via these phone numbers. Every outage phone call that National Grid receives is logged into their outage tracking system and better enables them to pinpoint the location of the issue. The sooner that they can identify the location of the issue, the better they can respond.

Outage Reporting Phone Numbers:

Customer Service: 1-800-322-3223 (can also be used

for any other general questions)

Outage Reporting: **1-800-465-1212** (automated line for reporting power outages or downed wires)

Also, please call the Egremont Police Department so they are aware of possible downed power lines, etc. They may be reached at 413-528-2160.

Please be sure that the Town has your current contact information! If you would like to change or add your information into Egremont's Mass Alert System, please email or call us with the pertinent contact numbers and email addresses. If you have any questions about the alert system, please drop us an email or call us and we will be happy to answer them. Please email: wbrinker@egremont-ma.gov Or phone: 413 528-0182 ext 17

ECO-TIP

Medications: Put leftover prescription meds (including pet meds) into a baggie and deposit in the designated slot in the lobby at our Police Dept. They will be incinerated. Then take the plastic pill bottles to the labeled box at the Egremont Town Hall drop-off area. They will be reused (<https://m25m.org/pillbottles/>).

Water Department:

As required by Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection, our rate structure must be adjusted to cover the true cost of producing and delivering water. This is a multi-year process. In response to this DEP mandate, water use rates will increase by three to six per cent per billing period beginning with the October billing period (Nov 1). Debt service will remain the same, \$40 per user account per month.

Please let the Department know if you are going to be filling your pool or have an irrigation system! The recorder at the water plant shows an increase in water production but we cannot tell if it is a leak, or pool use or irrigation. A quick call will help us with our reporting to Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection. Massachusetts Regulations require that a backflow prevention device be installed in irrigation systems; the Water Department has to perform an inspection of irrigation systems before allowing connection. Thank you!

The Department continues its leak detection

program; replacement of older infrastructure is ongoing. The Water Department saves process time (and money) by treating less water as a result of these efforts.

Did you know that a dripping faucet can waste 20 gallons of water a day! A leaky toilet can waste 200 gallons a day. These leaks waste your water and your money. That extra amount of water going into a septic system is not good for the system either.

If you have any questions about water supply or billing, the Water Department Clerk is available at Town Hall Monday - Friday from 7 to 3; telephone 528-0182 ext 17.

Historical Commission:

YESTERDAY

Where did we come from?

Egremont USA carries the same name as the town in Cumbria located in northwestern England near the lake district. How are we related?

Much of what we know today is based on a patchwork quilt of vignettes that span centuries. Our English counterpart probably began life as a small village first settled by the Britons, Picts and other clans of the area followed by the Germanic tribes (Vikings, Angles, Saxons, et al) who named the area Copeland, a derivative of Kaupland meaning bought land. One can well imagine that they may have purchased the village and surrounding area like Peter Minuet purchased New York City from the native tribes. Or maybe they just plundered, burned, raped and pillaged their way to ownership. Either way, this area was under Danish dominance for several centuries. Then, like all of England south of Hadrian's wall, the town fell under Roman rule and was renamed Ehenmont, Latin for hill by the river Ehen. In the 11th century the Normans invaded England again modifying the name to Egremont. Over time the Norman population assimilated into the dominant culture, evolving into early medieval England. Egremont passed through 9 noble families culminating with John Max Henry Scawen Windham, Baron Egremont and Baron Leconfield. He is a member of the Percy family who have retained their title since 1369 and still reside in their family home, Petworth in West Sussex (southeast England).

The town is the site of the remains of an ancient castle, excellent Hartley's ice cream and host to the World Gurning Championship. "What is Gurning?" It is the ancient art of manipulating your face so that your

chin meets your nose, your eyes take on a comical scrunched up aspect and various props are used to enhance the final affect (*enjoy the link below*).

So, where Did we come from?

The original settlers were Dutch farmers, purchasing land from Konkapot the Mohican chief in 1722. They were followed by the English in 1723, perhaps escaping considerable political turmoil in the mother country. It is believed that Egremont USA was named for Charles Wyndham 3rd Earl of Egremont, the Secretary of State in 1761. Loose as our association with Egremont UK is, we share certain commonalities. Egremont UK was named for its mountains and bisecting rivers, but it has a long history of quarrying, iron ore mining, textile dyeing and agriculture. Windsor Castle was constructed from hematite mined in Egremont. The town flourished during the industrial revolution and then returned to a more rural life. Egremont USA shares much with our English counterpart. A similar geography, topography and natural resources. It is situated in the Berkshire hills bisected by the Green river, rich in iron ore and marble quarries that became the source for many prominent buildings and monuments. Industrialization came early to this area, specializing in dyeing and processing leather goods, chair and carriage axel manufacturing, steel fabrication as well as dairy farming, sheepherding and agriculture. The ties we share with our namesake may be serendipitous or intentional, either way it was a starting point for our town and our town was a starting point for many leaving the turmoil of the British Isles to start new lives. They are our ancestors.

Images of Egremont

https://www.google.com/search?sxsr=A0aemvKsfTMAxyqqithQqc_uWQjPiICBg:1632362913400&source=univ&tbm=isch&q=images+of+Egremont+England&sa=X&ved=2ahUKEwjnwOPcgZTzAhVB_54KHdG9AcsQ7Al6BAgFEE0&biw=1309&bih=717&dpr=2.2#imgsrc=vZWZLw2OdxpfLM

Images of the Egremont Crab (for crab apple)

Festival and World Gurning Championship

<http://englishenglish.biz/world-gurning-championships/>

TODAY

During the 2nd quarter of 2021, EHC has been very busy with our current initiatives; cleaning and

curating our archives, completing phase 4 of the MACRIS book, and sponsoring Egremont's 746th Birthday Party. The party was a big success. Lucinda Vermeulen, representing our Board of Selectpersons, delivered the opening speech followed by Douglas Cooper reading a beautiful poem by David Allen Hunter. Once again, we all joined our voices with Doug Mishkin singing his song in praise of our Village and closed with a story entitled "You Can't Get There from Here" written and read by Richard Burdsall. The story paints an amusing and heartwarming picture of Egremont in the 40's and 50's. **Congratulations to Chris Albano who will receive a brand new Egremont T-shirt as the winner of the photo matching contest.**

TOMORROW

In support of our mission to preserve the historic nature of our town, the EHC is working closely with the Planning Board on a new bylaw that will help protect existing historic structures from demolition without review, collaborating with other town commissions and boards, supporting the DOT Rte 23 upgrade project and phase 5 of the MACRIS project.

MEMBERSHIP

The EHC is actively encouraging our fellow Egremonters to consider joining us in an effort to preserve our history. If you think you may have an interest, please join us at one of our monthly meetings. Dates and times can be found on the Egremont Website or email us at eghistcomm@egremont-ma.gov

CLARIFICATION

We would like to emphasize that the old trolley path from Creamery Road to Rte. 23 discussed in our previous article is on private property. We are invited at the owner's discretion. Please be considerate regarding noise, littering and the like, if enjoying this path.

Fire Department:

Date	Time	Call #
Location		Type
6/18/2021	11:52 AM	86
Taconic Ln.		Medical
6/19/2021	1:35 AM	87
Creamery Rd.		Tree on House
6/23/2021	2:27 PM	88
Bash Bish Falls Mount Washington		Medical
6/25/2021	3:54 PM	89

Hillsdale Rd.	Medical	Egremont Plain Rd.	CO Alarm
6/26/2021 7:11: AM	90	7/15/2021 10:44 AM	114
East St. Mount Washington	Alarm/False	Shun Till Rd.	Alarm/False
6/26/2021 1:37 PM	91	7/15/2021 6:18 PM	115
Egremont Plain Rd.	Medical	Jug End Rd.	Medical
6/27/2021 2:31 AM	92	7/16/2021 8:47 AM	116
Town House Hill Rd.	Alarm/False	Egremont Plain Rd.	Alarm/False
6/28/2021 10:19 PM	93	7/17/2021 7:35 AM	117
Hillsdale Rd.	Alarm/False	Hillsdale Rd.	Alarm/False
6/29/2021 9:28 AM	94	7/18/2021 10:17 AM	118
Town House Hill Rd.	Medical	Hillsdale Rd.	Alarm/False
6/29/2021 11:18 AM	95	7/21/2021 3:29 PM	119
Ox Bow Rd	Alarm/False	Sheffield Rd.	Propane Smell
6/29/2021 9:59 PM	96	7/21/2021 3:43 PM	120
East St. Mount Washington	Medical	Prospect Lake Rd.	Medical
6/30/2021 1:50 PM	97	7/23/2021 8:47 AM	121
East St. Mount Washington	Medical	Avenue	Medical
6/30/2021 7:00 PM	98	7/23/2021 10:59 PM	122
Baldwin Hill East	Wires Down	Hillsdale Rd.	Alarm/False
7/1/2021 11:23 PM	99	7/24/2021 1:07 PM	123
Sheffield Rd.	Medical	Egremont Plain Rd.	Medical
7/3/2021 7:31 AM	100	7/26/2021 11:02 AM	124
Hillsdale Rd.	Medical	East St. Mount Washington	Alarm/False
7/5/2021 8:37 AM	101	7/29/2021 11:42 AM	125
The Avenue	Medical	Main St.	Alarm/False
7/5/2021 9:59 AM	102	7/29/2021 12:08 PM	126
Bash Falls Mount Washington	Medical	Main St.	Medical
7/5/2021 11:45 AM	103	7/29/2021 5:48 PM	127
Egremont Plain Rd.	Medical	East St. Mount Washington	Medical
7/6/2021 6:02 PM	104	7/30/2021 3:15 PM	128
Main St.	Alarm/False	Town House Hill Rd.	Medical
7/7/2021 4:02 PM	105	7/30/2021 7:02 PM	129
Baldwin Hill N/S	Tree/wires	Button Ball Ln.	Medical
7/8/2021 10:41 AM	106	8/1/2021 1:31 AM	130
Main St	Medical	East St. Mount Washington	Medical
7/8/2021 11:40 AM	107	8/1/2021 6:36 AM	131
West St. Mount Washington	Medical	East St Mount Washington	Medical
7/9/2021 2:50 PM	108	8/1/2021 10:58 AM	132
AT and Jug End RD.	Medical	Under Mountain Rd.	Medical
7/10/2021 10:36 AM	109	8/1/2021 7:09 PM	133
Prospect Lake Rd.	Alarm/False	Farm Ln.	Alarm/False
7/10/2021 5:20 PM	110	8/2/2021 6:53 PM	134
Town House Hill Rd.	Medical	Race Brook Trail Head & Rt. 41 Sheffield	Medical
7/12/2021 10:19 PM	111	8/3/2021 11:59 AM	135
East St Mount Washington	Search	East St. Mount Washington	Alarm/False
7/13/2021 3:11 AM	112	8/3/2021 2:43 PM	136
Pine Crest Cross	Alarm/False	Farm Ln.	Medical
7/13/2021 7:41 AM	113	8/6/2021 10:07 PM	137

Rowe Rd.	Alarm False	9/7/2021	1:45 AM	161
8/8/2021 7:59 AM	138	Mt Everett State Park Mt. Washington	Medical	
Baldwin N/S	Medical	9/11/2021	2:06 AM	162
8/8/2021 10:03 AM	139	Jug End Rd.	Alarm/False	
West St. Mount Washington	Medical	9/11/2021	11:13 AM	163
8/10/2021 4:34 PM	140	Avenue	Medical	
East St. Mount Washington	Medical	9/11/2021	7:56 PM	164
8/12/2021 1:32 AM	141	Blunt Rd.	Mower Fire	
Main St.	Medical	9/12/2021	9:18 PM	165
8/12/2021 3:15 PM	142	Undermountain Rd.	Medical	
East St. Mount Washington	Lost Hiker	9/14/2021	11:55 AM	166
8/13/2021 5:21 PM	143	Town House Hill Rd.	Medical	
Sheffield Rd.	Medical	9/16/2021	5:57 PM	167
8/16/2021 2:37 AM	144	Main St.	Rescue	
Egremont Plain Rd	Medical	9/17/2021	7:17 AM	168
8/16/2021 11:59 AM	145	Mt. Washington Rd.	Medical	
Creamery Rd.	Alarm	9/18/2021	11:18 AM	169
/False		544 East St. Mt. Washington	Alarm/False	
8/18/2021 5:28 PM	146	9/18/2021	170	
Egremont Plain Rd.	Alarm/False	Lakeside Dr.	False/Call	
8/19/2021 12:23 PM	147	9/19/2021	8:41 AM	171
Main St.	Alarm/False	East St. Mt. Washington	Alarm/False	
8/20/2021 7:13 PM	148	9/19/2021	11:48 AM	172
Egremont Plain Rd.	Alarm/False	Sheffield RD	Medical	
8/21/2021 6:18 PM	149	9/20/2021	12:17 PM	173
Town House Hill Rd.	Medical	Undermountain Rd.	Medical	
8/22/2021 16:47 PM	150	9/21/2021	10:49 AM	174
Jug End Rd.	Tree Down	Shun Toll Rd.	Alarm False	
8/28/2021 1:58 PM	151	9/21/2021	7:26 PM	175
Hillsdale Rd.	Medical	Hillsdale Rd.	Alarm False	
8/28/2021 10:10	152	9/22/2021	10:20 AM	176
East St Mount Washington	Alarm/False	West St, Mount Washington	Alarm False	
8/29/2021 10:59 PM	153			
Egremont Plain Rd.	Alarm/False			
8/31/20 1:42: PM	154			
Hillsdale Rd.	Heavy Smoke			
9/2/2021 11:47 AM	155			
Main St.	Alarm/False			
9/2/2021 6:04 PM	156			
516 East Street Mount Washington	Medical			
9/3/2021 12:59 PM	157			
Whites Hill Rd.	Medical			
9/4/2021 8:18 AM	158			
Mountain Rd Mt Washington	Structure Fire			
9/4/2021 5:00 PM	159			
Pine Crest Hill Rd.	Medical			
9/6/2021 4:18 PM	160			
Prospect Lake Rd.	Medical			

WE WILL NEVER FORGET**9/11/2021 REMEMBRANCE of 2001 9/11 Attack on United States**

(Photos courtesy of Liz Wells)

From the Fire Chief:

It is with my pleasure introduce 2 new members of the Department Mark Hurwitz and Kevin Brown. Mark is currently attending the fire academy to get certified for FireFighter 1&2. Mark and Kevin are both taking the First responder certification as well at this time that is being conducted in house by Dave katzenstein.

We also have two of our support teams that are taking the first responder class Jennifer Hobson and new comer Jodi Hurwitz. This will all be a big help to the department.

If you are interested in joining the department as a support team member or a Fire fighter please contact the Chief. We are in desperate need of help with an aging department and no young blood it is a challenge everyday.

October is fire prevention month please make sure all your detectors are up to date and the batteries replaced, Plain escape routes, and review kitchen fire safety.

There is a bylaw that every residence/ business in the town of Egremont is to have a properly posted 911 sign. There are many times that we have been delayed because signs are missing, brush has overgrown them, they are on the wrong side of the road and so on. With that said please take 10 minutes and make sure that yours is ok.

We are happy to announce we will once again be hosting our **steak dinner as takeout only again due to Covid. It will be on 10/17/21** please follow us on Facebook for more details.

Notes from the Village School:

For anyone driving through South Village these days, you will notice police at the top of the hill managing traffic flow and helping our school children start their Fall Semester in our classroom! Thanks to everyone from the State on down for opening the schools. We have missed having our kids in the heart of our community.

This year, joining our teacher Mrs. Sarah Cooke, will be Mr Nathaniel Drake. Our wonderful assistant teacher, a graduate of The Manhattan School of Music, brings some extra skills to enrich our environment this year. Here, Mr. Drake plays, "Allemande," by Johann Sebastian Bach for the kindergarten class. Mr. Drake lives in Columbia County with his wife and two children. Welcome to our community Mr. Drake!

**Cell coverage mapping:**

Egremont residents – do you experience any wireless cell phone coverage issues in the Town of Egremont?

This October Egremont is supporting a month-long survey to learn more wireless service issues.

In recent years, some Egremont residents have remarked on issues regarding wireless cell phone service in our community. Egremont was offered an opportunity to help gather data that may point to possible solutions to these coverage issues.

Cell Coverage Mapping ("CCM") is a consumer-centric data collection and analytics survey focused on identifying wireless cell phone service issues and helping with facilitating wireless solutions for communities, such as building more cell towers in the most optimal locations. CCM is an on-line survey developed by WRA to map any wireless coverage issues. There is no cost to the Egremont or residents and businesses to participate in this new and innovative data-driven project.

Upon completion of the survey, Egremont will be able to use the data collected to assess service issues and facilitate possible solutions with wireless service providers. To gather data on coverage issues, CCM has created a brief survey for Egremont residents to identify issues and specific areas in Egremont where coverage has shown to be problematic.

This survey should take 1-3 minutes to complete, and you are welcome to provide feedback on multiple coverage issues. Please click this link - www.cellcoveragemapping.com - to take the survey. This survey closes on October 31, 2021.

Thank you for your participation.

For more information about this survey, please contact: Brad Gorham, VP, CCM, 978-376-5427, bradg@wirelessra.com.

About Cell Coverage Mapping - CCM

Cell Coverage Mapping LLC or CCM, is a subsidiary of Massachusetts-based, Wireless Realty Advisors LLC or WRA. WRA is a wireless infrastructure owner, operator, and developer. CCM is a real estate directional tool that is used to illustrate the gaps in wireless coverage, and the associated opportunities to develop wireless infrastructure.

Meeting Schedule:

Subject to change. Please see postings of meetings on the Town's web page at www.egremont-ma.gov at Town Hall and the Post Offices for more detail. This is not official.

(Many meetings are taking place via Zoom. Please check the town's web page, www.egremont-ma.gov, for meeting postings.)

Historical Commission - first Wednesday at 4pm

Assessors - Tuesdays & Thursdays 9am to 12noon &

Council on Aging - Meetings as posted.

Administrative Assistant is at Town Hall Thursday 9am to 12noon.

Board of Health - Monday-Thursday 7am to 12noon.

Meetings - Thursdays as posted 10am

Selectboard - Generally meetings every other Tuesday

1:30pm. Office weekdays 7am to 3pm.

Building Inspector - Tuesday 12:30pm to 3:30pm.

Other times and inspections by appointment

Cemetery Commission - first Friday of every month at 8am.

Conservation Commission - Second and Fourth Thursdays 5:30pm

Finance Committee - January through April. Other times as needed.

Library - Monday, Tuesday & Thursday 2-6pm & Saturday 9-12noon 413-528-1474

Planning Board - Please check web page for meeting dates.

School Committee: Second & Fourth Thursdays 6pm Mt. Everett High School Library

Tax Collector: Monday - Friday 7:00am to 3:00pm

Town Clerk - Mon-Thurs 1pm to 3pm or by appointment

Transfer Station - Tuesday & Thursday 8am to 1pm, Saturday 8am to 1pm, Sunday 10am to 4pm

Water Department - Office Clerk weekdays 7am-3pm Meetings second Thursday 3:00pm at Town Hall

Zoning Board of Appeals - as needed

To reach a board member or to leave a message please call the Town Hall 528-0182.

Business listings:

In an effort to promote local small businesses, the following businesses/services located in, or near, Egremont have agreed to be listed here. If we missed asking you and you wish to be included, please send your information to the Town Hall.

Support local businesses:

Prospect Lake Park and Campground - camping, swimming

413-528-4158 prospectlk@aol.com

www.prospectlakepark.com

Egremont residents receive a discount to access the beach.

The Inn at Sweet Water Farm - B&B

1 Prospect Lake Road

413-528-2882

www.innsweetwater.com

John Andrews' Restaurant - Restaurant

413-528-3469

Robin's Chair Caning - Chair caning and repairs.

Robin Walther

116 Egremont Plain Road

413-528-2537

robinschaircaning@gmail.com

Red Barn Antiques - Antique lighting & fine metal polishing

413-528-3230

41 Main Antiques Gallery - Vintage and modern furniture, antiques, collectibles, architectural and decorative objects.

413-528-0112

www.41mainantiques.com

Blue Rider Stables - Therapeutic Horseback Riding

Lessons, summer programs

www.bluerider.org

413-528-5299

Green River Arabians & Pintos -

Horse Boarding, lessons, judging, farm programs

413-528-2367 arabpinto13@yahoo.com

Indian Line Farm - Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) & Farmers Markets

413-528-8301

www.indianlinefarm.com

Ivory Pond Farm -

Llamas, Yarn and Woolens. Dancing Crane Rug Hooking Studio. Hooked rugs, lessons and supplies.

Tom & Liz Marino

413-528-9465

www.lizmarinorughooking.com

Llamama@wildblue.net

Turner Farms Maple Syrup - Phillips Road, open 7am to 7pm 7 days a week.

Syrup and Honey

413-528-5710

Skip DelVaglio -- Old Drone Apiary at Frog Cottage (Local Honey)

1257 Sheffield -- Egremont Road

413 528-2308

Frog Cottage Goodies: Phyllis & Cynthia

Pies, cakes, cookies, fudge, fruitcakes, cheesecakes

1257 Sheffield/Egremont Road

Great Barrington MA 01230

413-528-2308

Zorn Family Chiropractic-Chiropractor

44 Main Street, South Egremont

413-528-9654

healingspiritdc@yahoo.com

Zorn Core Fitness -

Personal, Couples & Group Training

Cardio Room - \$25 @ month Free 1 month cardio for Egremont residents zornari@gmail.com

46 Main Street, South Egremont

413-528-1594 www.zorncorefitness.com

Yoga at Zorn Core Fitness, with Karin Beebe

Ashtanga Yoga & Gentle/Hatha Yoga

46 Main Street, South Egremont

413-528-0828

kbyoga@gmail.com

Amelia's Holistic Facial Rejuvenation

*Combined with Reiki Level II and Cranial
Sacral Release*

A licensed Aesthetician.

*"Look and feel as though you just enjoyed a
two-week vacation...without the jet lag.*

518.320.8314

AmeliasHolisticFacials@gmail.com

*Old Egremont Country Store - groceries, beer,
wine, liquor, newspapers, lottery, & much more*
413-528-4796

Blueberry Lane Home Design - Interior decorating
413-528-9633

Steve Agar - driving services
Ride to the airport, train, etc
413-854-7269

Lord St. Pierre - General Contractor
*Home renovations, maintenance and
monitoring*
413-522-3671
llstpierre@yahoo.com

"Jack of All Trades"-Handyman Services
Jack Buckley
413-528-1982
413-446-1982

Bee Humble Softwash Services LLC
*low pressure soft washing of roofs, houses,
awnings, decks, fences, solar panels, RV's, exterior
windows, etc.*
beehumblesoftwash@gmail.com
860-453-4388

James Olmsted - Outdoor Services & Caretaking
Field Mowing
413-528-0102 413-717-2443

*Bonnie Wells: general housekeeping, maintenance
to construction clean-up, ironing, polishing,
organizing, window washing with free screen
cleaning. 413-854-7417*
bonbonz75@yahoo.com

Workingdesign

Architecture and Landscape Design

15 Sheffield Rd, So. Egremont

Robert Fakelmann, AIA and Alexis Wreden

318-436-9657 or 318-548-2238

rjf@latech.edu or awreden@gmail.com

www.workingdesign.info

No project too small!

Catamount Ski Area - Skiing & ropes course
413-528-1262
www.catamountski.com

Peter Goldberg, Realtor
Residential, Commercial, Land
Stone House Realty
35 Railroad Street, Great Barrington
413-281-6384m 413-528-4211o

Anita Schilling - Real Estate Listing & Sales
William Pitt Sotheby's
413-528-4192 or 413-626-1920
anitaschilling@gmail.com

*Kenver Ltd - Winter Sports Equipment, Apparel &
Accessories*
39 Main Street
413-528-2330 www.kenverltd.com

Cyber Knight - Matthew Wall
PC repairs - Networking - Internet
413-854-8660
Matthew.wall@yahoo.com

*Dellea.biz Computer Services offers affordable on-site
Windows computer help and technical support as well
as remote PC tune-ups. Book appointments online at
<https://dellea.biz> or call (413) 528-1141*

*Berkshire Wildlife Solutions - Resolving conflicts with
nature. Eric F. Ives*
Mass Problem Animal Control Agent
*Consultation/Inspection, Capture, removal and
exclusionary work.*
413-528-9813 413-250-5094

Brookside Quiltworks - Catherine Kane - fabric shop and quilt gallery. 2 Sheffield Road, Egremont
413-528-0445
www.brooksidequiltworks.com

Maple Shade Enterprises: Quilts and Sewing, much more

Sue Delmolino Ives
413-644-0229 susandelmolino@yahoo.com

Stitched by JessaLu - Jessica Meyer
Handmade bags for your "Stuff"! www.stitchedbyjesselu.com

Berkshire Sewn - Mary Gifford
berkshiresewn@gmail.com
413-528-3040

Gregory Cherin Photography, South Egremont
1-917-991-0553 info@gregorycherin.com
www.gregorycherin.com

Berkshire Band Instrument Co. - Kevin S. Wheeler
185 Route 71, Egremont MA 01230
413-528-4955

Hillsdale Healthcare
Primary health care. Accepting most MA, NY and CT insurance. DOT certified.
518-325-2273

Berkshire Veterinary Acupuncture, LLC -
alternate veterinary therapies for your pet including acupuncture, spinal manipulation, food and herbal therapies. In-home or in-office by appointment. 413-528-1312
bvamobilevet@gmail.com
www.berkshireveterinaryacupuncture.com

Berkshire South Regional Community Center
15 Crissey Road, Great Barrington MA
413-528-2810 www.berkshiresouth.org
Non-profit community organization serving 17 towns throughout the Southern Berkshires.
Providing a variety of educational, recreational and cultural programs for all ages - from early

childhood to senior citizens - and partners with several local organizations.

Gogel & Gogel - Law Firm
Business law & litigation
40 Main Street
413-528-2698 www.gogel-gogel.com

House To House Hauling & Recycling
413-528-0943
Trash hauling services and roll-off containers services.

Jana Laiz: Local Author www.crowfliespress.com
413-528-0943 www.janalaiz.com

Erika Ludwig Founder/Teacher
Berkshire Strings -
Instruction & Inspiration
erika@berkshirestrings.com
www.berkshirestrings.com
www.fiddlingfemmes.com
<https://berkshirestrings.youcanbook.me/>
413-528-5739

Aston Magna Music Festival
Saturday evenings at the new Saint James Place in Great Barrington, mid-June to mid-July.
www.astonmagna.org
Susan Obel, Executive Director

Dwelling in the Past:

Lynn H. Wood, historic land records research
dwelling.LHW@gmail.com
Elisabeth L. Wood, historic and genealogical research

dwelling.ELW@gmail.com
www.dwellinginthepast.com

Offering the opportunity to find out the history of your home, and learn how its former occupants contributed in shaping the community we live in today. The local research team has extensive knowledge of the archival tools available, and combines that with years of experience in using those resources for bringing the past back into the light.

P.O. Box 558 South Egremont MA 01258
413-528-3919

Call for a complimentary consultation.

Memories of the Old Egremont Store
By Stanley Gracyk
Segment 3

Fast forwarding to the 1970's, where Joe Elliott not only ran the store, post office, and gas station, but was also an avid member of the American Society of Dowsters, headquartered in Danville, Vermont. I sat in amazement as a young teenager listening to him explain about water dowsing (finding underground veins of water) with a whalebone divining rod to elders who were interested and believed in this skill. Joe would sit on an old wooden Canada Dry soda crate behind the potato chip rack and explain what people needed to do for him to help them. This special art he developed allowed well drillers to find, drill, and supply water sources for people building new houses or barns. He conducted this business on Sundays only as it was the era of the Sunday Blue Laws in Massachusetts, where stores could not be open on Sundays.

Unfortunately in 1972, Joe passed away and his son Craig along with his wife Gail took over the running of the store with the guidance of Joe's wife, Dean Elliott. With Craig and Gail running the business many new and modern products and novelty items came to the store. Some of these were over the counter specials and others had to be asked for specifically as they could not be displayed publicly. One novelty item that I believe still exists in the store today was two quarters that were super glued to the floor and many a good natured laugh was had with people trying to pick them up. Along with this was Joe's reminder to parents that the mobile library would be at Mrs. Bridgham's house on Monday afternoon so their children could pick out a new book.

The store run by Joe and then Craig and Gail, always tried to cater to the locals needs as they were the ones that kept the store in business from November until May when all the campers from Prospect Lake and Camp Thunderbird had gone back to the cities. Most locals would ask for fresh local eggs supplied by Pine Lane and delivered in crates of 30 dozen individual eggs which were then crated in one dozen egg containers by myself and put in the cooler. Fresh corn(butter

and sugar), tomatoes, squash, and watermelons came from Durlack Farms just down the road. Certain beers such as Schaefer, Ballantine's and Schlitz malt liquor, along with a generous supply of Ernest and Julio muscatel and Boone's Farm Apple and Strawberry Hill were available. Others like Don Choquette would be at the store at 5 o'clock every night to get his pack of Lucky Strikes. Linda Warner would come in with her dog Bertha to get her beer and Joe would ask if it was a 3 legged dog. Pete "The Italian" Delmolino would remind Joe that he had a batch of dandelion wine if anyone was interested. Rene "Potato" Pautot was always available for trucking, a good laugh, and numerous tall tales. Bob "Wildcat" Warner was named for his Drott and excavating skills.

There were always new items coming into the store along with some interesting stories and tall tales which kept me mesmerized listening to them. As mentioned earlier the locals were the ones that kept the store in business along with Elm Court Inn restaurant next door. Locals such as John Willetts would come in during the winter months and barter antique guns, lamps, and different items of value to obtain groceries which was always done with a handshake when a mans word was his word. Joe normally gave them six months to buy their items back which was a much longer period than any pawn shop would give today. Most locals lived from paycheck to paycheck and Joe and Craig extended credit to many of them until they could pay it back.

As per usual my disclaimer not to offend anyone as life was so much simpler, uncomplicated, pleasurable, neighborly, and friendly than in today's society. More Old Egremont Store stories to come as my mind drifts down those old home days which I miss very much.



(The Elm tree and corn field on the top of Baldwin Hill. Photo by Vicki Windhman.)

*Town of Egremont
P.O. Box 368
South Egremont MA 01258
413-528-0182*

*www.egremont-ma.gov
tegrement@egremont-ma.gov*

*Printed, on recycled paper, by the Selectmen's
Office Staff as submitted by Town Departments.*

*"The Town of Egremont is an equal opportunity
provider and employer."*

AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT (ARPA) - EGREMONT - SURVEY

Please drop off at Town Hall, return via email to tegrement@egremont-ma.gov or mail to Town Hall, P.O. Box 368, South Egremont MA 01258.

Are you a resident of Egremont?

- ☐ Full-time
- ☐ Part-time

What is your age?

- ☐ 16 to 24
- ☐ 25 to 34
- ☐ 35 to 44
- ☐ 45 to 54
- ☐ 55 to 64
- ☐ 65 or older

In what areas should we invest our ARPA money? **Select up to 5 items.**

- ☐ Water and wastewater infrastructure
- ☐ Other infrastructure (public spaces, trails, etc.)
- ☐ Expand broadband access and affordability
- ☐ Support small business development
- ☐ Support work opportunities and training
- ☐ Improve Public safety facilities and equipment
- ☐ Other public safety programs (mental health and substance abuse services, etc.)
- ☐ Bolster non-profits and social service agencies _____
- ☐ Direct assistance to households
- ☐ Support tourism and hospitality industry
- ☐ Disaster and severe weather preparedness and pollution mitigation
- ☐ Conduct economic development activities
- ☐ Participate in regional partnerships, such as _____
- ☐ Support Berkshire Bounty and other efforts to eliminate food insecurity
- ☐ Community health and wellness services or programs (for elders, children, etc.)
- ☐ Work to create more affordable housing options (rental and purchase)
- ☐ Other _____



8 TOWN REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT PLANNING BOARD

For release: September 24, 2021

The 8 Town Regional School District Planning Board is conducting three surveys to gather public input into studying possible consolidation or enhanced collaboration between the Southern Berkshire Regional School District and Berkshire Hills Regional School District.

The surveys are designed to collect input from three constituencies:

- **Student and alumni** for students in grades 9-12 who attend either Monument Mountain Regional High School or Mt. Everett Regional High School, and for alumni who graduated from either high school from 2018 to 2021.
- **All faculty and staff** who work at the two districts.
- **Community members** for anyone who lives in one of the eight towns, or anyone who has a child attending either SBRSD or BHRSD even if they live in a different town.

The RSDPB asks that individuals complete one of the three surveys, as there is some overlap in the questions.

“Getting survey responses from the residents of the communities served by the two districts is essential to our study,” said Lucy Prashker, chair of the RSDPB. “We want to hear from students and alumni, faculty and staff, elected officials, parents, as well as those who do not have children in the schools. Both permanent residents and those with second homes in the Berkshires are encouraged to participate. Everyone’s input and opinion matters.”

The Regional School District Planning Board, formed in 2020 to explore collaboration and consolidation possibilities between the two districts, includes up to three representatives from each of the eight towns served by the SBRSD and BHRSD (Alford, Egremont, Great Barrington, Monterey, New Marlborough, Sheffield, Stockbridge, and West Stockbridge).

A research team led by project manager Jake Eberwein has been engaged by the RSDPB to analyze existing data and trends. Community input gathered from the surveys and focus groups will be reflected in a report to be prepared by the research team on potential consolidation and collaboration models. Any change to the organization of the two districts would likely be a multi-year process that would require town votes.

Links to the surveys are available on the Regional School District Planning Board’s website, www.8towns.org. Survey responses are due by October 12. For more information, visit the RSDPB website at www.8towns.org or www.rsdpb.org, or contact RSDPB Project Manager Jake Eberwein at jakeeberwein@gmail.com.



8 TOWN REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT PLANNING BOARD

8towns.org



**Attention all residents of Alford,
Egremont, Great Barrington, Monterey,
New Marlborough, Sheffield,
Stockbridge, and West Stockbridge**

**The 8 Town Regional School District Planning
Board needs your input!**

The board was formed to explore options for consolidation or collaboration between the Southern Berkshire Regional School District and the Berkshire Hills Regional School District. Go to **www.8towns.org** to learn more and to complete a survey so that your voice can be heard.

**Survey responses will be accepted up until
OCTOBER 12**

CULTURAL COUNCIL QUESTIONNAIRE

Your Cultural Council is a town organization dedicated to supporting activities in Egremont and Alford that enrich our lives. The council receives funds yearly from the state which it uses to assist local lectures, school trips, art workshops, children's science and music groups, theater groups, concerts and many more activities and events. In order to make the council's work more relevant to our community, we would like to ask you to take a moment to answer the following questions.

Please rate each possible activity on a scale of 1 (not interested) to 10 (likely to attend)

1. music concerts in French Park 1-2-3-4-5-6-7-8-9-10
2. art workshops at fire station 1-2-3-4-5-6-7-8-9-10
3. outdoor walks with science guides 1-2-3-4-5-6-7-8-9-10
4. lectures on Human Rights 1-2-3-4-5-6-7-8-9-10
5. music concerts at Dewey Hall, Sheffield 1-2-3-4-5-6-7-8-9-10
6. Friends of Egremont History picnic 1-2-3-4-5-6-7-8-9-10
7. sing-a-long at Dewey Hall, Sheffield 1-2-3-4-5-6-7-8-9-10
8. playwright workshop theater in Gt Barrington 1-2-3-4-5-6-7-8-9-10
9. lecture at Alford Library 1-2-3-4-5-6-7-8-9-10
10. women's writing workshop at Simon Rock 1-2-3-4-5-6-7-8-9-10

Please rate these children's activities as to their importance, in your opinion, for our children 1 (not at all useful) to 10 (very important)

1. after school science workshops 1-2-3-4-5-6-7-8-9-10
2. in-school music presentations 1-2-3-4-5-6-7-8-9-10
3. in-school art enrichment activities 1-2-3-4-5-6-7-8-9-10
4. support of school field trips 1-2-3-4-5-6-7-8-9-10
5. support of non school music, science clubs 1-2-3-4-5-6-7-8-9-10
6. children's presentation at Alford Library 1-2-3-4-5-6-7-8-9-10

Do you have any suggestions for activities or events you would like the council to support? _____

THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR YOUR TIME.

Please give this questionnaire into Town Hall or send it to Egremont Town Hall, PO Box 368, South Egremont, MA 01258



Eat Out! Speak Up!

Plastic waste fact: Every year, microplastics from billions of plastic straws, utensils, and takeout containers end up in landfills and waterways, and then make their way into the food chain.

Here's an opportunity for **you** to make a difference for the planet in our local eateries. When you notice a green practice in your favorite food establishment, tell the manager you appreciate the effort. Everyone likes positive feedback. Your compliment could open the door to a wider conversation about sustainability in restaurants and delis and may even prompt a manager to make more efforts to be green.

1. Say no to plastic straws.
2. Refuse plastic utensils and condiment packets.
3. Commend your server when they ask in advance if you would like these items.
4. Bring your own "to-go" container for beverages, takeout and leftovers.
(To remember: Leave them in a bag at your door.)
5. Praise the manager when you see sustainable initiatives.

Brought to you by the Egremont Green Committee.

TOWN OF EGREMONT – October 2021

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p>Tentative- Subject to Change- Check With Town Hall Town Hall Monday-Friday 7-3pm Phone: 413-528-0182 Fax: 413-528-5465 Website: www.egremont-ma.gov Email: tegrement@egremont-ma.gov</p>						
3	4 Board of Health 7-12:30 Town Clerk 1-3	5 Assessors 9-12 Bd of Health 7-12:30 Town Clerk 1-3 Bldg Inspector 12:30-3:30	6 Board of Health 7-12:30 Town Clerk 1-3	7 Assessors 9-12 Board of Health 7-12:30 Town Clerk 1-3	1	2
10	11 <i>Columbus Day</i> Town Hall Closed	12 Assessors 9-12 Bd of Health 7-12:30 Town Clerk 1-3 Bldg Inspector 12:30-3:30 Select Board 1:30pm	13 Board of Health 7-12:30 Town Clerk 1-3	14 Assessors 9-12 Board of Health 7-12:30 Town Clerk 1-3	15	16
17	18 Board of Health 7-12:30 Town Clerk 1-3	19 Assessors 9-12 Bd of Health 7-12:30 Town Clerk 1-3 Bldg Inspector 12:30-3:30	20 Board of Health 7-12:30 Town Clerk 1-3	21 Assessors 9-12 Board of Health 7-12:30 Town Clerk 1-3	22	23
24	25 Board of Health 7-12:30 Town Clerk 1-3	26 Assessors 9-12 Bd of Health 7-12:30 Town Clerk 1-3 Bldg Inspector 12:30-3:30 Select Board 1:30pm	27 Board of Health 7-12:30 Town Clerk 1-3	28 Assessors 9-12 Bd of Health 7-12:30 Town Clerk 1-3	29	30 <i>Halloween in French Park</i> <i>6 pm</i>
31 <i>Halloween</i>						Transfer Station: Tues, Thurs, Sat 8-1; Sun 10-4 Library: Mon, Tues, Thurs 2-6; Sat 9-12

TOWN OF EGREMONT – November 2021

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

Tentative- Subject to Change- Check With Town Hall

Town Hall Monday-Friday 7am-3pm


Phone: 413-528-0182 Fax: 413-528-5465

Website: www.egremont-ma.gov Email: tegrement@egremont-ma.gov



	1 Board of Health 7-12:30 Town Clerk 1-3	2 Assessors 9-12 Bd of Health 7-12:30 Town Clerk 1-3 Bldg Inspector 12:30-3:30	3 Board of Health 7-12:30 Town Clerk 1-3	4 Assessors 9-12 Board of Health 7-12:30 Town Clerk 1-3	5	6
7 <i>Daylight Saving Time Ends</i>	8 Board of Health 7-12:30 Town Clerk 1-3	9 Assessors 9-12 Bd of Health 7-12:30 Town Clerk 1-3 Bldg Inspector 12:30-3:30 Select Board 1:30pm	10 Board of Health 7-12:30 Town Clerk 1-3	11 Veterans Day Town Hall Closed	12	13
14	15 Board of Health 7-12:30 Town Clerk 1-3	16 Assessors 9-12 Bd of Health 7-12:30 Town Clerk 1-3 Bldg Inspector 12:30-3:30	17 Board of Health 7-12:30 Town Clerk 1-3	18 Assessors 9-12 Board of Health 7-12:30 Town Clerk 1-3	19	20
21	22 Board of Health 7-12:30 Town Clerk 1-3	23 Assessors 9-12 Bd of Health 7-12:30 Town Clerk 1-3 Bldg Inspector 12:30-3:30 Select Board 1:30pm	24 Board of Health 7-12:30 Town Clerk 1-3	25 <i>Thanksgiving Day</i> Town Hall Closed	26	27
28 <i>Hanukkah Begins</i>	29	30		Transfer Station: Tues, Thurs, Sat 8-1; Sun 10-4 Library: Mon, Tues, Thurs 2-6; Sat 9-12		

TOWN OF EGREMONT – December 2021

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Tentative- Subject to Change- Check With Town Hall Town Hall Monday-Friday 7-3pm Phone: 413-528-0182 Fax: 413-528-5465 Website: www.egremont-ma.gov Email: tegrement@egremont-ma.gov Transfer Station: Tues, Thurs, Sat 8 - 1; Sun 10 - 4 Library: Mon, Tues, Thurs 2 - 6; Sat 9 - 12						
5	6 Board of Health 7-12:30 Town Clerk 1-3	7 Assessors 9-12 Board of Health 7-12:30 Town Clerk 1-3 Bldg Inspector 12:30-3:30	8 Board of Health 7-12:30 Town Clerk 1-3	9 Assessors 9-12 Board of Health 7-12:30 Town Clerk 1-3	10 	11
12	13 Board of Health 7-12:30 Town Clerk 1-3	14 Assessors 9-12 Bd of Health 7-12:30 Town Clerk 1-3 Bldg Inspector 12:30-3:30 Select Board 1:30pm	15 Board of Health 7-12:30 Town Clerk 1-3	16 Assessors 9-12 Board of Health 7-12:30 Town Clerk 1-3	17	18
19	20 Board of Health 7-12:30 Town Clerk 1-3	21 <i>First day of Winter</i> Assessors 9-12 Board of Health 7-12:30 Town Clerk 1-3 Bldg Inspector 12:30-3:30	22 Board of Health 7-12:30 Town Clerk 1-3	23 Assessors 9-12 Board of Health 7-12:30 Town Clerk 1-3	24	25 <i>Christmas Day</i>
26	27 Board of Health 7-12:30 Town Clerk 1-3	28 Assessors 9-12 Bd of Health 7-12:30 Town Clerk 1-3 Bldg Inspector 12:30-3:30 Select Board 1:30pm	29 Board of Health 7-12:30 Town Clerk 1-3	30 Assessors 9-12 Board of Health 7-12:30 Town Clerk 1-3	31 <i>New Year's Eve</i> 